

diversity of innovation and the impact of their efforts throughout the community of Northwest Indiana. The 2011–2012 individuals named Society Fellows are as follows: Mayor Jon Costas, of Valparaiso, has worked hard to ensure that the City of Valparaiso is an innovative leader. Revitalizing the downtown area, creating a new urban park, improving the city's infrastructure, and launching a citywide bus service, as well as a commuter bus to Chicago, are some of the many outstanding projects completed under the direction of Mayor Costas. Robert Johnson III is the President/CEO of Cimcor, Inc., Merrillville. Robert developed cutting edge information technology security software that takes real time change detection to the next level by offering instant remediation of unauthorized changes. This security software system is used by the United States Army and the National Nuclear Security Administration, among others. Julie Rizzo is the President of US Greenworks, LLC and is also Executive Director of My Choice Recycling, Saint John. Julie's network of granite recycling centers has saved an estimated five million pounds of granite and stone scraps from being dumped into landfills nationwide. Angela Hambling, Principal of Rolling Prairie Elementary School in La Porte County, created an offsite activities center that is used to improve the educational outcome of underserved minority students. Angela, along with school administrators and teachers, was able to help over 100 students this past year. As a result of this exceptional program, the school's status was raised to "exemplary." Janet Brown, Ph.D. is the Dean of the College of Nursing, Valparaiso University. Under Dr. Brown's direction, the College of Nursing's enrollment went from 25 students to 350 undergraduate students, 45 master's program students, and 28 doctoral students. Dr. Brown also initiated the overseas "cultural immersion" experiences for nursing students.

The recipient of the Chanute Prize for Team Innovation is: IVDiagnostics at Entech Innovation Center, Valparaiso. IVDiagnostics launched a new diagnostic tool to help in the fight against cancer by indentifying rare circulating tumor cells in vivo. This procedure is non-toxic and also helps to eliminate issues that arise in current methods, which calculate high false positives and negatives. Preclinical studies have been conducted at two medical centers which illustrate the effectiveness of this innovative technology.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding innovators on being named Society Fellows and the Chanute Prize recipient. Their dedication and commitment to innovation is truly an inspiration. Their years of hard work have played a major role in shaping future development in Northwest Indiana and communities worldwide, and each recipient is worthy of the highest praise.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, I was unable to attend the first vote of a Point of Order for Un-

funded Mandate on H.R. 3630 raised by Representative MOORE. The Chair then called a Question of Consideration to Rule for H.R. 3630.

As you know, the House was not scheduled to be in Session this week and Monday evening I held a listening event with concerned citizens in the town of Savoy. I could not, in good conscience, cancel on a group that had been on my schedule for several months. On Tuesday, December 13, 2011, I was traveling from my district to Washington, DC, when this unanticipated Point of Order was raised.

Had I been present, my votes would have been as follows: for Question of Consideration of the Resolution, I would have voted "yea."

REMEMBERING MRS. GRACE TYSON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness but with great respect that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mrs. Grace Tyson, of East Chicago, Indiana. Mrs. Tyson's many contributions to the Northwest Indiana community as a civil servant and as a leader within her church are worthy of our deepest admiration. Grace passed away at the age of 103 on Friday, November 25, 2011, but the impact and influence she has had on her community will surely live on for generations to come.

Grace Tyson was born in Unity, Illinois, to Mary and Dee McConde. She attended elementary school in Unity, Illinois, graduated from high school in Sandusky, Illinois, and later attended college in Carbondale, Illinois. In 1940, she married Charles Tyson and they settled down in the city of East Chicago, Indiana. Grace graduated with distinction from Beauty and Cosmetology School in Gary, Indiana, in 1945. Her lifelong career as a licensed cosmetologist and beautician lasted 51 years, until her retirement in 1996. Grace joined Saint Mark African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in the early 1940s. She became a faithful member of the church and Missionary Society, holding the offices of President and Secretary.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Tyson gave of her time to serve those in need. She was very passionate about helping others, and her life was centered around this type of work. She was one of the very first individuals to serve as a volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels, a position she held for over five years. She was a member of the Women's Improvement Club of East Chicago, for which she served as President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Grace also became the area representative and delegate for senior citizens at the Statehouse in Indianapolis. For her truly impressive determination to improve the lives of so many, she was awarded the Governor's Proclamation for her years of service. Grace was known as a quiet, effective leader who served as a positive role model for many young men and women throughout the community of Northwest Indiana.

While Grace Tyson was always active in her community and her church, she cherished her

time with her family the most. She leaves to cherish her memory her nieces, Mary Perry and Martha Brownlee; nephew, Tommy (Gwendolyn) Daniel; godson, Edward Williams; and special neighbor Anna Williams; as well as many grand nieces and nephews. She will also be greatly missed by her many friends, neighbors, club members, and caretakers.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Grace Tyson for her outstanding devotion to her community in Northwest Indiana. Her unselfish and lifelong dedication to those in need is worthy of the highest commendation. Grace's selflessness was an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to have represented her in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES MARK McNATT

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. James Mark McNatt, a remarkable Texan who died on July 31, 2011. James was born in Denton, TX to James Arby and Margaret Revell McNatt and in 1966 he married the love of his life, Judy Blankenship. James and Judy went on to raise three children in Carthage, TX and James was the proud grandfather to seven grandchildren.

As a young man, James served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany for two years. In 2007 he retired from East Texas Medical Center in Carthage after 25 years of service. James was a respected member of the New Life Baptist Church and The Gideons International, and was known to have the perfect scripture for any situation.

James loved his life in Carthage, where he resided for 28 years. All three of his children went to Carthage High School, where James and Judy could always be found cheering in the stands, working in the concession stand, or helping behind the scenes. James never stopped being an active community member—whether it was volunteer work or running his snowcone stand in the summer. Judy has worked for the local radio station for 20 years.

In 2002, James was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, but he never skipped a beat. James and Judy still continued to travel to see the grandchildren's dance recitals, cheer competitions, and soccer games and visit the Longview Fire Station where his son was a firefighter. James adamantly believed a cure for Parkinson's was possible and planned for guests of his memorial to make donations to the American Parkinson's Disease Association. James also served time on the board of the local American Heart Association chapter.

His family will remember James as a man of faith and perseverance. One who made it a priority to have the whole family together, making sure the annual White Elephant Gift Exchange was on the calendar and one who loved others unconditionally.

James is survived by his wife for 45 years, Judy McNatt, daughters Jennifer Mattingly and husband Chris, Jessica Huff and husband Bill, and son (James) Michael McNatt and wife Melinda. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Molly and Riley Mattingly; Baylee,

Kennedy, Cooper and Hadley Huff; and Lani McNatt. In addition, James is survived by sisters Fran Ryals, Sissy Frady Hamlin, and brothers Buster McNatt and Bill McNatt. Finally, James leaves behind a large host of family and special friends throughout Texas and beyond.

TO RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BEN ETTLEMAN

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ben Ettleman, owner and Chief Executive Officer of Davis Industries and to congratulate him on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Mr. Ettleman moved Davis Industries to the Lorton area in 1970, and, under his leadership, Davis Industries continues to be an involved and active community partner. When asked what advice he would give to a person entering business, he replied: "You must establish good relationships with your employees, your vendors, suppliers and manufacturers—but you must never forget to develop a good relationship with your community. That's vital!" Mr. Ettleman's life has been true to this philosophy; his robust support for area non-profits has been invaluable to the Lorton and greater Fairfax County communities.

Countless local and national programs and charities have benefited from Mr. Ettleman's leadership and direction. He allows his metal crushing site to be used in training the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department in the "Jaws of Life" program. He also helped found the "Police Unity Tour" to honor fallen officers. In response to the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, Mr. Ettleman donated \$25,000 to help provide care for children who were burned as a result of the tragedy. He has provided critical leadership and financial support to local high school all-night graduation parties, renovations of public parks, food drives, holiday celebrations at local shelters, educational scholarships, little league teams, art programs, and even spay-and-neuter programs. The Lorton Community Action Center, Boys & Girls Club, Jewish National Fund, Georgetown University Parkinson's Research Center, Fairfax County Police and Fire and Rescue Departments, United Community Ministries, South County Little League, and the Lorton Arts Foundation are just a few of the many organizations that have been able to provide assistance, education, and public safety services to thousands of residents thanks to the leadership and generosity of Ben Ettleman.

Mr. Ettleman recently celebrated his 90th birthday on August 11, 2011, and in recognition of his many contributions and accomplishments, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has proclaimed the day as Ben Ettleman/Davis Industries Day in Fairfax County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in congratulating Mr. Ettleman on this prestigious recognition and wishing him a very happy birthday. I also want to thank him for his selfless contributions, which have benefited so many in our community. I hope that

his record of leadership will serve as a model of community service to future generations.

IN SUPPORT OF THE FARM DUST REGULATION PREVENTION ACT AND THE SYNTHETIC DRUG CONTROL ACT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present last Thursday, I would have voted for the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act, H.R. 1633, as well as the Synthetic Drug Control Act, H.R. 1254.

H.R. 1633 would prevent the EPA from issuing any new rule over the next year to regulate coarse particulate matter, or "nuisance dust." While there is no such regulation currently pending, the concerns of my constituency with respect to the possibility that such a rule could be used to prevent coal mining or may interfere with farming or construction activities prompt my support of this bill.

H.R. 1254 would expand the list of Schedule I narcotics under the Controlled Substances Act to include cannabimimetic agents, the chemicals that are commonly known as synthetic drugs. The bill would prohibit the sale, distribution, or use of those chemicals without a permit issued by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Synthetic drugs, sometimes known by their street names as K2, Spice, and bath salts, imitate the hallucinogenic and stimulant effects of illegal drugs. Synthetic drugs can affect the brain in a manner that is similar to Schedule I drugs and are sold to consumers as harmless alternatives to marijuana, cocaine, or methamphetamines. There are numerous instances where the use of these drugs has resulted in agitation, anxiety, seizures, tremors, hallucinations, paranoia, and death.

Drug abuse is a serious health problem in southern West Virginia, one that threatens our communities, our homes, and our children. Too often, there is a misconception that these imitation drugs are not as dangerous as the Schedule I narcotics they seek to simulate. That's a gross distortion that this legislation seeks to correct. I believe we must be unrelenting in getting these designer drugs off the streets and out of the hands of our children. Passing this legislation will help us to send a clear moral message that these synthetic drugs carry with them deadly consequences—not just for the users, but for their families and communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF GEORGE PAKIDIS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize George Pakidis for his years of service in the fight against drunk driving.

Each year thousands of people are injured or killed by drunk drivers. The numbers of accidents and fatalities skyrocket during holiday

seasons, especially Independence Day and New Year's Eve. To help prevent these senseless tragedies, local business leaders worked with law enforcement and government agencies to develop programs that would keep intoxicated drivers off of our roads. George Pakidis is one of the leaders in this effort.

For 14 years, George has served on the Board of Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP). Founded in 1982, WRAP is an award winning public-private coalition that seeks to prevent drunk driving, drugged driving, and underage drinking in the Washington metropolitan area through innovative education programs and advocacy. As Vice President of Red Top Cab, a regional taxi service based in Northern Virginia, George recognized an opportunity to decrease the number of instances of drunk driving by spearheading a free cab ride service known as SoberRide, which functions as part of the WRAP program. In the 12 years that George has been its Chairman, SoberRide has grown to include nine participating taxi companies and has kept more than 52,000 drunk drivers off of our roads. His innovative approach to this problem has prevented countless accidents and saved thousands of lives.

George will soon be retiring from Red Top Cab as well as from his positions with WRAP and SoberRide. His leadership and foresight will be greatly missed. During his tenure the number of accidents has declined significantly, and the regional alcohol-related traffic death rate is consistently lower than the national average.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking George Pakidis for his immeasurable service to our community and for his efforts to eradicate drunk driving. Let us wish George continued success in his retirement.

HONORING OFFICER DERIEK WAYNE CROUSE

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in memory of Officer Deriek Wayne Crouse, a loving father and husband and dedicated law enforcement officer. Officer Crouse was killed in the line of duty on Thursday, December 8, 2011.

My deepest sympathies are with the family of Officer Crouse, the Virginia Tech Police Department, and the entire Hokie Nation. A 4-year veteran of the Virginia Tech Police Department, Officer Crouse was devoted to serving and protecting the students at Virginia Tech. This tragic event is a stark reminder of the many dangers law enforcement personnel face on a daily basis.

He joined the Virginia Tech Police Department on October 27, 2007, and served in the patrol division. Officer Crouse received his law enforcement certification on February 12, 2008, from the Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy. He was trained as a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officer, General Instructor, Firearms Instructor, Defensive Tactics instructor and most recently completed training for Advance Law Enforcement Rapid Response and Mechanical and Ballistic Instructor. Since February 2011, Officer Crouse was a member of